ERIN HUNT 2102 SE Ladd Ave Portland, OR 97214 (503) 803-9360

August 9, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

As a freelance web designer, I am writing to urge the Commission to approve LightSquared's launch as soon as is feasible without significant disruption to GPS devices.

Given the rapidly rising demand for wireless broadband data services across the U.S., it is essential that more spectrum be assigned to wireless broadband as soon as possible. I know that the Commission and the President agree with this goal, as spelled out in the National Broadband Plan.

LightSquared's proposed 4G-LTE network represents the best chance in the short term for a significant expansion of the nation's wireless broadband spectrum. This network would be a privately funded initiative using spectrum long assigned to LightSquared and its predecessors. The company would provide access to next-generation wireless broadband to 260 million Americans, including many in rural areas who currently lack any ability to connect wirelessly to the Web.

By providing its service on a wholesale basis, LightSquared would achieve another important benefit to the United States: increased competition in the wireless industry. Not only would a wholesale 4G-LTE provider allow small wireless providers to upgrade their service offerings, but it would also allow new entrants to launch service – including retailers who sell electronic devices requiring broadband wireless connectivity.

Nothing worthwhile comes easily. The media have reported on the interference issues that are disrupting GPS receivers in tests of LightSquared's transmissions. For obvious reasons, the Commission should proceed carefully lest GPS devices be disabled. But the political pressure being placed on the Commission by GPS companies is inappropriate. The rational path is exactly the one that the FCC has laid out: convene a cooperative technical working group of all the stakeholders, test the extent of interference, and then develop a remediation plan.

It seems to me that the interference issues are resolvable with the addition of filtering technology to GPS devices that mistakenly look for GPS signals inside of LightSquared's spectrum. The GPS industry has had many years to prepare for the optimization of the neighboring spectrum, and it should have already built such filters into its receivers.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erin Hunt

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